

*Cont*

and non-woven activated carbon felt, mat, and sheet; and activated carbon particulate and granules disposed within flexible fibrous matrixes.

*C1* 2

18. (new) An apparatus for substantially preventing tarnish from forming on a metal object, said apparatus comprising an enclosure for substantially sealing within said metal object, said enclosure having at least one adsorbent attached therein, wherein said adsorbent is disposed between two porous protective layers of fabric or cloth, and wherein at least one of said adsorbent is selected from the group consisting of activated carbon, natural and synthetic zeolite, silica gel, activated alumina and mixtures thereof.

*3*

19. (new) An apparatus for substantially preventing tarnish from forming on a metal object as recited in claim 17 or 18 wherein at least one of said adsorbent is impregnated with one or more halides of metal selected from the group consisting of zinc, aluminum, magnesium, calcium, iron and ammonium, or phosphoric acid.

*4*

20. (new) An apparatus for substantially preventing tarnish from forming on a metal object as recited in claim 17 or 18 wherein at least one of said adsorbent is impregnated with one or more halides selected from the group consisting of chlorides, fluorides, bromides and iodides.

Please rewrite claims 2-4, 8 and 9 as follows:

5

(amended) An apparatus for substantially preventing tarnish from forming on a metal object as recited in claim ~~17~~ or ~~18~~ wherein said metal is selected from the group consisting of silver, copper, brass and mixtures thereof.

A2

(amended) An apparatus for substantially preventing tarnish from forming on a metal object as recited in claim ~~17~~ or ~~18~~ wherein said enclosure is selected from the group consisting of cases, boxes, bags and pouches.

9

(amended) An apparatus for substantially preventing tarnish from forming on a metal object as recited in claim ~~17~~ wherein at least one of said adsorbent is selected from the group consisting of activated carbon, natural and synthetic zeolite, silica gel, activated alumina and mixtures thereof.

10

(amended) An apparatus for substantially preventing tarnish from forming on a metal object as recited in claim ~~17~~ wherein said adsorbent is washed with solvent and subsequently heated to a temperature less than about 350° C to restore an adsorptive capacity of said adsorbent.

A3

(amended) An apparatus for substantially preventing tarnish from forming on a metal object as recited in claim ~~17~~ or ~~18~~ wherein said tarnish results in an increase in electrical resistance of metal objects.